

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
United Nations Advocacy Week
Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, Switzerland
Monday, 27 September 2010

Resources for the service:

- an olive tree
- a bowl of olive oil
-

One voice reads the parts in this type.

The congregation reads the parts in this type.

Musical Preparation

Welcome

(The person doing the welcome takes the saucer of oil and makes the sign of the cross on the leaders hand, saying "N., you are marked by the cross of Christ.")

(stand)

Greeting

As we gather from all corners of the world, we become a community of the cross,
cross about injustice,
cross when a whole town is flooded to save a farm of someone with power,
cross over the rich getting richer on the backs of the poor,
cross with the selfish powers of this world,
cross about all those crossed out as if they don't matter.

(The leader takes the bowl of oil and shows it to the people. Maybe he/she smells it.)

As we gather from all corners of the world, we are a community of the blessed,
blessed with the mark of the cross on our hearts,
blessed for becoming a community of peace,
blessed through our names called out by God,
blessed by the claim of joy which comes from giving,
blessed to aim high because together we become strong.

Sung Psalm 133: Miren qué bueno (Pablo Sosa, Argentina)

Prayer

Author of good news,
Repairer of what is ruined,
Oil of gladness,
bless your people with a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit
mark us with the badge of your love,
which draws us into a community of peace
where the poor in spirit find themselves planted in your realm of righteousness
and the mourning are consoled, revived with your healing touch,
through Jesus Christ. ***Amen.***

(sit)

(The leader goes to the reader and makes a sign of the cross on the reader's hand saying "N., you are marked by the cross of Christ.")

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 61:1-4

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

(stand)

Alleluia (sung 1x)

Palestine

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

The musical score consists of three staves of music in a 2/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff.

The Gospel - Matthew 5:3-4

Russian Orthodox Liturgy and Matthew 5:3-4

Russian Orthodox

Re - mem - ber your ser - vants, Lord, when you come in your glo - rious reign.

1. Bless - ed are the poor in spir - it; for theirs is the king - dom of heav - en.

2. Bless - ed are those who mourn; for they will be com - fort - ed.

Re - mem - ber your ser - vants, Lord, when you come in your glo - rious reign.

The musical score is for a Russian Orthodox liturgical setting. It features a vocal line and a basso continuo line. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

(sit)

(The leader goes to the preacher and makes a sign of the cross on his/her hand saying "N., you are marked by the cross of Christ.")

Sermon

Response to the Word

Sisters and brothers, in our organizations and in the organizations we try to impact, we face the hierarchies which shut many out, the obeisance to might, the hidden ploys which impede action. We may be poor in power, but we carry with us the blessing of Christ. We may mourn awful injustices but Jesus gives us a badge, which announces we are citizens of the realm of God.


Today we have oil from Palestine. You are invited to come, to have your hand anointed with oil in the sign of the cross. If you don't have a badge, say your name so the person with the oil can say it.

Whether involved in the UN or working here in this house, when we feel poor in spirit, or mourn lost possibilities, we can remember this badge, which comes from Christ Jesus and find encouragement from his promise of blessing. While you come, we will sing.

(The leaders in front will say the name of the person and then 'you are marked by the cross of Christ.')

Song during the marking with oil

From El Kasilik: Lebanon



Sal-wal-qu - lu - bi qal-bul-'ath - ra - 'i nu - ru - du - ru - bi nah-wa-sa - ma - 'i
You can con - sole hearts hea - vy with sad - ness. You light the path - way lead - ing to glad - ness.

(stand)

Prayer of Intercession

Comforter,
Oil of gladness,
Repairer of the breach,
free the captives,
bring good news to the poor,
anoint the grieving with your boundless love.

We pray for those who started this day hungry, or confused.
Fill with hope those whose spirits are impoverished.
Surround those made homeless because of the floods in China, Pakistan and India,
those malnourished by the famine of Niger,
those mourning casualties in the Congo, Somalia, Afghanistan and Mexico.

This week with the ecumenical prayer cycle we remember the peoples and churches of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Instead of the continuation of old conflicts renew efforts towards understanding and peace between these countries and their neighbors.

Father and Mother of all, hear these and many other prayers of your people, through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer (in our many languages)

Sending Forth

We have a badge which no one can take from us.
We are marked by the cross of Christ Jesus.
We are blessed by his words and filled with his spirit.
We are rooted in his love.

Sung Response

I am like an olive tree

Rima Nasir Tarazi: Palestine

Musical score for "I am like an olive tree" in 2/4 time, key of D minor. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff begins with a Dm chord and the lyrics "1. I am like an o - live tree, my roots are in the land." The second staff continues with "I must give it love and care so I will save my land." The third staff is labeled "Refrain" and begins with "Come my dear friends let us dance a - round the o - live tree." The fourth staff concludes with "Come my dear friends let us sing be - neath the o - live tree." Chords indicated above the notes include Dm, Gm, A7, C7, and Gm.

Words and music: © Rima Nasir Tarazi. Paraphrase in English: Maggie Hamilton © 1999. Counterpoint.

Christ gives us one another as sisters and brothers.
We become a community of peace.
We carry the signs of the glory of God.
We are rooted in God's love.

Sung Response

I am like an olive tree

We can bind up the broken-hearted
and proclaim God's favor,
because in Christ we become olive trees of righteousness,
rooted in his love.

Sung Response

I am like an olive tree

Benediction

Let us ask for God's blessing:
May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine upon us
and have mercy on us. Amen.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
United Nations Advocacy Week
Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, Switzerland
Tuesday, 28 September 2010

Resources for the service:

- an olive tree
- several olive tree branches

One voice reads the parts in this type.
The congregation reads the parts in this type.

Musical Preparation

Greeting

God is raising up a righteous branch,
executing justice
uncorruptable,
not influenced by the envelope under the table,
not hiding gains in a secret account,
overturning the tables of buy and sell.

God is raising up a righteous branch
with leaves for the healing of the nations,
with equity for the meek of the earth,
with fullness for those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.

We worship the Blessed Trinity,
in the company of the blessed of every time and place,
righteous branches with the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
whose delight is the fear of the Lord.

(stand)

Hymn: With joy draw water (*Este's "Whole Book of Psalmes", 1592; rev. English: Anne McKinstry*)

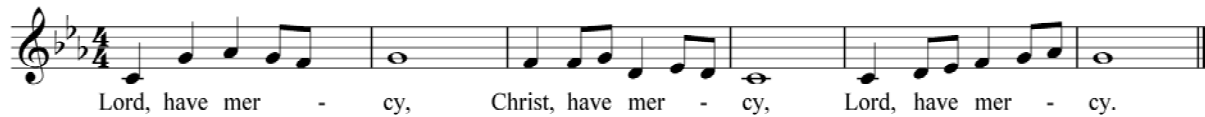
(sit)

Prayer of Confession

Let us pray:
All-seeing Judge,
You bless those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
but we are caught in a world hungering for profit and thirsting for gain.
Forgive us when we look for the good deal,
but forget to take into account the labourers who made the deal good.
Turn us to a fairness which asks more than price.
Make us a branch of justice, which brings peace.

Sung Response

Lord, have mercy

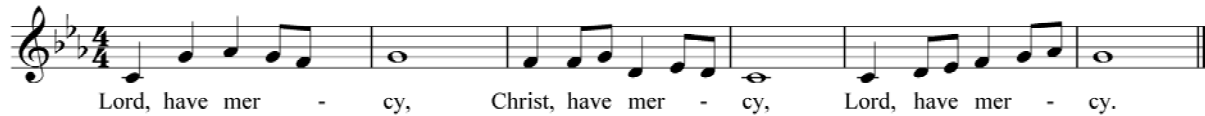


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God of Truth,
You bless the gentle and humble.
But our times are devoured by self-promotion and striving to get ahead of others.
Forgive us when life becomes publicity and values are skewed by what gets attention.
Turn us to an authenticity, which invites community.
Make us a branch of justice serving with honesty and care.

Sung Response

Lord, have mercy



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Words of Assurance

Christ is the olive branch reconciling us to God.
In him there is forgiveness and the chance to start over.
In him is life so full it is called eternal.
Brothers and sisters in Christ, believe the Gospel.

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 11:1-6

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
 or decide by what his ears hear;
 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
 and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
 the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
 and a little child shall lead them.

(stand)

Alleluia

Palestine

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

The Gospel - Matthew 5:5-6

Russian Orthodox Liturgy and Matthew 5:5-6

Russian Orthodox

Re - mem - ber your ser - vants, Lord, when you come in your glo - rious reign.

3. Bless - ed are the meek; for they shall in - her - it the earth.

4. Bless ed and those who hun - ger and thirst af - ter right - eous - ness for they will be filled.

Re - mem - ber your ser - vants, Lord, when you come in your glo - rious reign.

(sit)

Sermon

Response to the Word

For the rest of the worship, we will simply pass the olive branches through the congregation. When it comes to you, simply hold it for a moment. For what righteousness is God hungering in your meetings today? What gentleness is God giving you that will make a just peace? Then pass it to your neighbour.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

We thank you, God, for your blessed ones,
 who dream of a market serving those most in need,
 who hunger for systems which don't trample human dignity,
 who thirst for a justice not surrendered to the highest bidder.
 We thank you for the branches of righteousness shining in the sun.

Sung Response

I am like an olive tree, verse 2

Rima Nasir Tarazi: Palestine

2. See its branch - es 'neath the sky, like sil - ver in the sun,
 shimmer in the win - ter light and rus - tle in the breeze.
 Come my dear friends let us dance a - round the o - live tree.
 Come my dear friends let us sing be - neath the o - live tree.

Words and music: © Rima Nasir Tarazi. Paraphrase in English: Maggie Hamilton © 1999. Counterpoint.

We thank you, God, for your gentle ones,
 who quietly feed the hungry and care for the sick,
 who seek the changes that lift others up
 whose wisdom and understanding keep others alive.
 We thank you for the branches of righteousness shimmering in the light.

Sung Response

I am like an olive tree, verse 2

You are invited to say aloud or silently your prayers for others this morning.

We give thanks to God, who hears our prayers, and offers us branches of peace.

Sung Response

I am like an olive tree, verse 2

(stand)

Lord's Prayer (in our many languages)

Hymn

Gloria en lo alto a Dios

Moderato

Chords: D, A/C#, Bm, Am, D7, G, F#07, B7, Em, Em/D, A/C#, A7, D, A/C#, Bm, E4sus, E7, A, A/C#, D, A/C#, Bm, Am, D7, G, F#07, B7, Em, Em/D, A/C#, A, D, A/C#, Bm, E7, A7, D7, G, A/G, F#m, Bm, Em, A7, D, D7, G, A/G, F#m, Bm, Em, A7, D

Un ca - mi - no se a - bre ha - cia la luz a - nun - cia vi - da y sue - ña li - ber -
A new way has o - pened toward the light an - nounc - ing life and dreams of li - ber -
tad, ges - tan - do un tiem - po de jus - ti - cia y paz, un pue - blo u - ni - do ce - le -
ty, and birth - ing times of jus - tice and of peace, when God's own peo - ple feast in
bran - do va. Ho - ri - zon - te de ar - mo - ní - a y fe, un rum - bo cla - ro ha - cia la ple - ni -
un - i - ty. Vis - tas shine with har - mo - ny and faith, and there is plen - i - tude in ev - ery
tud bus - can - do fuer - za en la co - mu - ni - dad. Des - te - llos so - mos de tu luz.
place which finds its strength in the com - mu - ni - ty. We are the spar - kles of your light.
¡Glo - ria en lo al - to a Dios y en la tie - rra vi - da nue - va y paz!
Glo - ry be to God on high and on earth new life and last - ing peace!
¡Glo - ria en lo al - to a Dios y en la tie - rra vi - da nue - va y paz!
Glo - ry be to God on high and on earth new life and last - ing peace!

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Benediction

Let us ask for God's blessing:

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine upon us
and have mercy on us.*

Amen.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
United Nations Advocacy Week
Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, Switzerland
 Wednesday, 29 September 2010

Resources for the service:

- an olive tree
- a watering-can
- gardening-tools

One voice reads the parts in this type.

The congregation reads the parts in this type.

Musical Preparation

Greeting

The earth is the Lord's
and all that is in it belongs to God,
 not to banks, not to corporations, not to politicians, neither to you, nor to me.
We gather from east and west, north and south to worship the Creator,
 the owner of the world, and those who live in it.
We are not our own, we belong to God,
 one with the world, one with each other,
one with God who is one.
 We join the company of those who seek God,
lifting up our heads, to praise God's name.

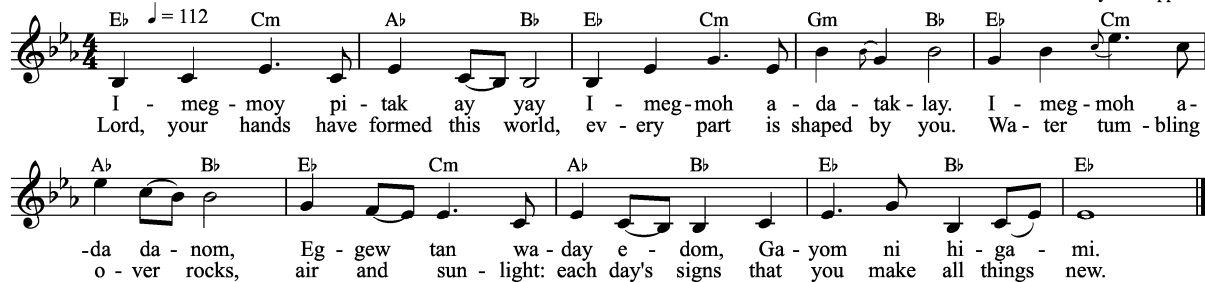
Written by Terry MacArthur for the 17th World Council of YMCAs
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(stand)

Hymn *(sung in English)*

Ramon & Sario Oliano: Kalahan based on Psalm 24:1

Ikalahan melody: Philippines



2. Pantaneman ipitak Taklay i mangitodak,
 Danom i an manibog, Eggew i on dada od
 Gayom ni hi-gami.

2. Yours the soil that holds the seed, you give warmth and moisture, too.
 Sprouting crops and blossom buds, trees and plants:
 the seasons' signs that you make all things new.

3. Ambel-at i kayabang Tep obimi aateng.
 Dakel iday manokmi, Tan matabay killomi,
 Gayom ni hi-gami.

3. We search out new ground to weed, even mountain fields will do.
 You uproot the toughest sins from our souls:
 both steward signs that you make all things new.

4. Mik anapay inom-an Et waday panlamanan.
 Mek anapay nemnemni Anggan iday baholmi,
 Gayom ni hi-gami.

4. Like a mat you roll out land, space to build for us and you
 earthly homes, and better still, homes for Christ,
 the truest sign that you make all things new.

(sit)

Bible Reading - Isaiah 24:4-6a, 17-20

⁴The earth dries up and withers,
the world languishes and withers;
the heavens languish together with the earth.

⁵The earth lies polluted
under its inhabitants;
for they have transgressed laws,
violated the statutes,
broken the everlasting covenant.

⁶Therefore a curse devours the earth,
and its inhabitants suffer for their guilt;

¹⁷Terror, and the pit, and the snare
are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth!

¹⁸Whoever flees at the sound of the terror
shall fall into the pit,
and whoever climbs out of the pit
shall be caught in the snare.

For the windows of heaven are opened,
and the foundations of the earth tremble.

¹⁹The earth is utterly broken,
the earth is torn asunder,
the earth is violently shaken.

²⁰The earth staggers like a drunkard,
it sways like a hut;
its transgression lies heavy upon it,
and it falls, and will not rise again.

Call to Confession

“The earth lies polluted under its inhabitants.” The ancient prophet sounds strangely contemporary. Even if we are aware and concerned about the earth, we often continue as if someone else would clean up after us, someone else will find a solution. Consumption has become an epidemic using up and destroying what had been a gift of God. We confess our sin.

Silence

Prayer of Confession

God, weeping over the world,
we soil the earth.

Our feet are dirty with our own waste.

We disconnect ourselves from the cries of the ground.

The earth is utterly broken,
and we do not take account of our part in the destruction.

What is another tree falling in the rain forest or another ice flow melting in the artic?

Forgive us, God, but even more importantly, turn us,

so we are no longer a curse devouring the earth,

but caretakers of what your have graciously given, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Kyrie (e.g. *Nkosi, Nkosi from South Africa*)

Words of Assurance

In Christ we can start over becoming merciful with each other and with the world we share. In Christ we can become pure, so that seeing God, our ways of living are transformed. In Christ, we can become gentle, so that the earth we are promised to inherit is not torn asunder. Sisters and brothers, in Christ we are forgiven and offered life renewed.

(stand)

Alleluia

Palestine

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

Gospel - Matthew 5:7-8

Russian Orthodox Liturgy and Matthew 5:7-8

Russian Orthodox

Re - mem - ber your ser - vants, Lord, when you come in your glo - rious reign.

5. Bless - ed are the mer - ci - ful; for they will re - ceive mer - cy.

6. Bless - ed are the pure in heart; for they will see God.

Re - mem - ber your ser - vants, Lord, when you come in your glo - rious reign.

(sit)

Sermon

Response to the Word

(one person waters and turns the soil around the olive tree)

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

God all-merciful,
we thank you for those who practice mercy:
who see the world whole and yet cherish a small leaf,
who tend to global problems and yet care for the forgotten child or lonely neighbour,
who turn the soil and are turned by love.

Raise up good stewards, God, so the earth finds peace.

Sung Response

I am like an olive tree, verse 3

Rima Nasir Tarazi: Palestine

3. See the far - mer, how he works, to bring us food each day:
let us join with him, dear friends, to help him on his way.
Come my dear friends let us dance a - round the o - live tree.
Come my dear friends let us sing be - neath the o - live tree.

The musical score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord symbols (Dm, Gm, A7, C7) are placed above the notes to indicate the accompaniment.

Words and music: © Rima Nasir Tarazi. Paraphrase in English: Maggie Hamilton © 1999. Counterpoint.

God, holy and strong,
We thank you for the pure in heart:
uncorrupted and un-corruptible,
foolish according to the ways of the world, but foolhardy in serving others,
cultivated by righteousness instead of greed.

Raise up good stewards, God, so the earth finds peace.

Sung Response

I am like an olive, tree verse 3

God inciting and exciting,
we thank you for those whose concern is matched by action,
for the scientists struggling to find alternatives to end abuse,
for concerned citizens trying to conserve what you have given,
for indigenous peoples remaining faithful to ancient ideals of living in relationship with the earth,
for those farmers, who care for the land,

Raise up good stewards, God, so the earth finds peace.

Sung Response

I am like an olive, tree verse 3

(stand)

Lord's Prayer *(in our many languages)*

Benediction

Let us ask for God's blessing:

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine upon us
and have mercy on us. Amen.*

Hymn: Heal the world *(Michael Jackson: USA)*

United Nations Advocacy Week
Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, Switzerland
Thursday, 30 September 2010

Resources for the service:

- an olive tree
- bowls of olives
- empty bowls for the olive stones

One voice reads the parts in this type.

The congregation reads the parts in this type.

Musical Preparation

Greeting

O, taste and see that the Lord is good.
happy are those who take refuge in God.
Depart from evil and do good;
seek peace, and pursue it.
The Lord is near to the brokenhearted,
and saves the crushed in spirit.

We seek the Lord
who answers us and delivers us from all our fears.
O magnify the Lord with me
and let us exalt God's name together.
Let the humble hear and be glad
I will bless the Lord at all times,
God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.

adapted from Psalm 34:1-4, 8, 14,

(stand)

Hymn: The right hand of God

1. The right hand of God is writ - ing in our land, writ - ing with pow - er and with
 2. The right hand of God is strik - ing in our land, striking out at en - vy, hate and
 3. The right hand of God is lift - ing in our land, lift - ing the fal - len one by
 4. The right hand of God is heal - ing in our land, healing bro - ken bo - dies, minds and

love, greed. Our con - flicts and our fears, our tri - umphs and our
 onc. Our self - ish - ness and lust, our pride and deeds un -
 souls. Each one is known by name, and res - cued now from
 So won - drous is its touch with love that means from so

tears are re - cord - ed by the right hand of God.
 just are de - stroyed by the right hand of God.
 shame by the lift - ing of the right hand of God.
 much, when we're healed by the right hand of God.

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(sit)

Leader: The taste of peace?
 Men: *The tingle of bubbles from victory champagne?*
 Women: *The bland gruel of leftovers allotted for the defeated?*

Leader: The taste of peacemaking?
 Men: *The sweetness of starting over?*
 Women: *The bitterness of what is lost?*

Leader: The taste not forgotten?
 Men: *The saltiness of one's blood from the bully's blow?*
 Women: *The hunger for blood in the bully's eyes?*

Leader: As we gather this morning fresh from breakfast,
 what would peace taste like?

Silence

In a world of private swimming pools for the powerful,
 and pricey, privatized water systems or non-existent supplies for the poor,
 what does it mean to make peace?
 What would peace taste like—
 chlorine, carbon dioxide, plastic?
 What good news might peace bring, at what cost?

Silence

Kyrie

Clara Ajo and Pedro Triana: Cuba

Se-ñor, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros. Cris-to, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros.
Se-ñor, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros. Sí, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Yes, have mercy upon us.

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Epistle Reading Romans 14: 13-19

Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling-block or hindrance in the way of another. I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. If your brother or sister is being injured by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died. So do not let your good be spoken of as evil. For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. The one who thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and has human approval. Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual edification.

(stand)

Alleluia

Palestine

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

Gospel - Matthew 5:9-10

Russian Orthodox Liturgy and Matthew 5:9-10

Russian Orthodox

Re - mem - ber your ser - vants, Lord, when you come in your glo - rious reign.

7. Bless - ed are the peace - mak - ers; for they will be called the chil - dren of God.

8. Bless - ed are those who are per - se - cut - ed for right - eous - ness sake; for theirs is the king - dom of heav - en.

Re - mem - ber your ser - vants, Lord, when you come in your glo - rious reign.

(sit)

Sermon

Response to the Word

Remembering the promise that peacemakers are blessed, what might peace taste like? How might the Spirit of God feed us so we do not injure others? What nourishment does God offer us so we pursue mutual edification?

This morning we will pass around bowls of olives direct from Palestine. They have been produced by a persecuted people, so they carry with them the promise of blessing. When the bowl comes, you are invited to eat an olive. Savor it for a moment. Give thanks for the energy God is giving you through a small olive so that you can work for peace. Then pass the bowl to your neighbor. While we eat olives we will pray.

Prayer

Reconciling God,
inviting strangers far and near to eat in your presence,
feed us with a love which casts out fear,
a sensitivity which avoids putting stumbling blocks in another's way,
a courage to find new solutions for a justice able to bridge differences.
Give us the health and strength to be peacemakers.

Bless us and call us your children.

Sung Response I am like an olive tree, verse 4

Rima Nasir Tarazi: Palestine

4. See the o - lives, black and green, de - li - cious is their taste;
we eat them with thyme and oil to give us health and strength.
Come my dear friends let us dance a - round the o - live tree.
Come my dear friends let us sing be - neath the o - live tree.

The musical score is written in G minor, 2/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chords are indicated above the notes: Dm, Gm, Dm, A7, Dm, Gm, Dm, Gm, A7, Dm, Dm, C7, A7, Dm, A7, Gm, A7, Dm, Gm, A7, Dm.

Words and music: © Rima Nasir Tarazi. Paraphrase in English: Maggie Hamilton © 1999. Counterpoint.

Never-giving-up God,
when we eat vengeance and cynicism until we cannot digest anything else,
give us a taste of your goodness
so that in trusting you
we overcome the inhumanity which growls in our stomachs
and discover renewed energy to do your will.
Give us the health and strength to be peacemakers.
Bless us and call us your children.

Sung Response I am like an olive tree, verse 4

Source of all Goodness,
change our diet from the self-interest which leads to spiritual obesity,
to the concern for our sister and brother that awakens life.
May peace be on the menu of all our meals.
Give us the health and strength to be peacemakers.
Bless us and call us your children.

Sung Response I am like an olive tree, verse 4

(stand)

Lord's Prayer *(in our many languages)*

Song: Ye yashevu ish takhath gaphno

Ye ya - she - vu ish ta - khath gaph - no ve ta - khath t'e - na - tho veeyn ma - kha
 And ev - ery - one 'neath the vine and fig tree shall live in peace and un - a -

rid. Ye ya - she - vu ish ta - khath and gaph - no ve ta - khath
 fraid. And ev - ery - one 'neath the vine and fig tree shall live in

t'e - na - tho veeyn ma - kha - rid. Lo yis - u goi al - goi khe - rev,
 peace and un - a - fraid. Plow - shares beat out of swords and guns;

ve lo yil - me - dun od mil - kha - mah! Lo yis - u goi al -
 nei - ther shall we learn war an - y more! Plow - shares beat out of

goi khe - rev, ve lo yil - me - dun od mil - kha - mah!
 swords and guns; nei - ther shall we learn war an - y more!

Benediction

Let us ask for God's blessing:
*May God be gracious to us and bless us
 and make his face shine upon us
 and have mercy on us.
 Amen.*

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
United Nations Advocacy Week
Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, Switzerland
Friday, 1 October 2010

Resources for the service:

- an olive tree

One voice reads the parts in this type.

The congregation reads the parts in this type.

Musical Preparation

Greeting

We are a community of the blessed:
those who mourn,
those who weep now,
those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,
those who are hungry now,
the poor in spirit,
the poor,
the reviled and the persecuted,
the hated and excluded.

We will laugh and be filled
for we have a place in God's realm.

We are a community of the cross:
cross about the rich, who have received their consolation,
cross about those who are laughing now, for they will mourn and weep,
cross about those who are full now, for they will be hungry,
cross about those well-spoken of,
for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Adapted from Luke 6:20-21, 24-26

Glory to God in the highest heaven
and on earth peace among those whom God favors.

(stand)

Hymn: Gloria en lo alto a Dios

Moderato

D A/C# Bm Am D7 G F#o7 B7

Un ca - mi - no se a - bre ha - cia la luz a - nun - cia vi - da y sue - ña li - ber -
 A new way has o - pened toward the light an - nounc - ing life and dreams of li - ber -

Em Em/D A/C# A7 D A/C# Bm E4sus E7

tad, ges - tan - do un tiem - po de jus - ti - cia y paz, un pue - blo u - ni - do ce - le -
 ty, and birth - ing times of jus - tice and of peace, when God's own peo - ple feast in

A A/C# D A/C# Bm Am D7 G F#o7 B7

bran - do va. Ho - ri - zon - te de ar - mo - ní - a y fe, un rum - bo cla - ro ha - cia la ple - ni -
 un - i - ty. Vis - tas shine with har - mo - ny and faith, and there is plen - i - tude in ev - ery

Em Em/D A/C# A D A/C# Bm E7 A7 D7

tud bus - can - do fuer - za en la co - mu - ni - dad. Des - te - llos so - mos de tu luz.
 place which finds its strength in the com - mu - ni - ty. We are the spar - kles of your light.

G A/G F#m Bm Em A7 D D7

¡Glo - ria en lo al - to a Dios y en la tie - rra vi - da nue - va y paz!
 Glo - ry be to God on high and on earth new life and last - ing peace!

G A/G F#m Bm Em A7 D

¡Glo - ria en lo al - to a Dios y en la tie - rra vi - da nue - va y paz!
 Glo - ry be to God on high and on earth new life and last - ing peace!

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(sit)

Prayer

Crossed out God,
 left behind by those trying to get ahead,
 ignored by those who know how the world works,
 reviled by those whose power gets them what they want,
 cross our world with blessings which show your glory,
 the poor lifted up, the persecuted rejoicing,
 the peacemakers making a peace which discloses we are your children together.
 Send your angels across the skies to sing away our fears
 to discover unexpected blessings and profound favor
 in following Jesus Christ, your Beloved. *Amen.*

Alleluia

Palentine

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 5:1-12

(vs. 2-8 each read in a different language)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

2“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

3Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

4Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

5Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

6Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

7Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

8Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

(stand)

Sung Gospel Acclamation - Luke 2:14

(“Gloria, gloria, gloria en las alturas a Dios” by Pablo Sosa, Argentina)

(sit)

Sermon

Prayer

God of glory,
forming a new heaven and a new earth
where the humble inherit
and the hungry eat their fill,
root us in your word,
which turns upside down the values of our world
which replants us in your realm.

Glory to God.

Sung Response**I am like an olive tree, verse 5**

Rima Nasir Tarazi: Palestine

5. We are all like o - live trees, our roots are in the soil.
 We'll stay plant - ed on our land, no mat - ter what be - fall.
 Come my dear friends let us dance a - round the o - live tree.
 Come my dear friends let us sing be - neath the o - live tree.

Words and music: © Rima Nasir Tarazi. Paraphrase in English: Maggie Hamilton © 1999. Counterpoint.

God in the highest,
 living in our midst,
 full of peace and persecution,
 grieving and thirsting,
 understanding who we are,
 and what we might become,
 root us in your Beloved, Jesus Christ.
 who teaches us a dying, in which you offer life,
 and life that is worth dying for.
Glory to God in the highest.

Sung Response**I am like an olive tree, verse 5**

God of strange favors,
 singing to us with angel voices that we need not be afraid,
 blessing us in our poverty,
 making us glad, even when all kinds of evil are uttered against us falsely,
 root us in your peace,
 a peace, which transforms the merciless and hard of heart
 with a love confident enough it can encompass those against us.
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those whom God favors.

Sung Response**I am like an olive tree, verse 5***(stand)***Lord's Prayer**

Passing the Peace

Jesus said:

„Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

I invite you to exchange a sign of peace with one another.

Song: Ewe thina (*South African traditional*)

Benediction

We say together God's blessing

May the blessing of the God of peace and justice be with us;

may the blessing of the Son who weeps the tears of the world's suffering be with us;

*and may the blessing of the Spirit who inspires us to reconciliation and hope be with us;
from now into eternity.*

Amen.

(2003 © Clare McBeath, UK)

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
United Nations Advocacy Week
Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, Switzerland
Sending Prayer - Friday, 1 October 2010

Resources for the service:

- four olive tree branches
- this prayer does not need printed sheets

One voice reads the parts in this type.

The congregation reads the parts in this type.

On his journey to the cross, Jesus blessed his followers with “My peace I give to you”.
But he warned that it would be a strange kind of peace.

“Not as the world gives,” he said.

As we prepare to leave one another, we take a final moment to bless one another with this strange peace, and pray God’s Spirit give us strength for the journeys ahead.

Let us pray:

We thank you, God,

for songs and stories,

for words reshaping how we understand,

for aspirations opening possibilities we had not considered.

Grant that our programs and institutions may not hinder progress,

but lend momentum to the movement toward justice and peace.

Repeat after me:

God give us courage

God, give us courage.

You have made us wonderfully different, God
but all of us are made in your image.

Our journeys veer in many directions,

but you surround us with your Spirit,

which holds us together and leads us to you.

Guide us so we have the freedom to take the path you choose for us.

Repeat after me:

God, go with us.

God, go with us.

We thank you, God,

for witnesses and workers,

for speakers, moderators, advisors,

for embassy, UN and WCC staff, preparing the ways for fruitful encounters,

for those sharing their passion and skill.

Fill us with a love which overflows into blessings for all we meet.

Repeat after me:
God, bless us.
God, bless us.

The Peace

You are invited to say to those near you three short phrases, as an encouragement on our way:

“God give you courage.”

Can you translate this into your language, unless of course English is your first language?
God give you courage.

Short silence

Now you are invited to say this in your own language to your neighbors.

“God go with you.” Can you translate this? God go with you.

Short silence

The third is, “God bless you.” This should be easy.

Now, as we sing and offer praise to God
for the peace given us by the risen Christ,
I invite you to move close together to form one large circle around the plenary hall.
(A circle is formed)

Song: La paz del Señor (*Melody and Text, Anders Ruuth, Argentina*)
(Words in Spanish to be shown on screens.)

Jesus himself stood amongst them and said to them,
“Peace be with you.”
With your neighbour to the right lift the olive branch
and exchange words of peace with one another,
and then pass the olive branch along the circle
to the next pair of companions on our journey.
(Demonstrate the movement)
(Wait until the branches reach the 4 people chosen to stop them in the circle.)

Blessing

Go in peace and in faith:
Your journey is in God’s hands.
May the winds of the Spirit blow free,
the courage of Christ be deep within you
and the great Creator give you new life.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness
Repeat after me:
They will be filled.
They will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful.
Repeat after me:
They will receive mercy.

They will receive mercy.

Blessed are the peacemakers.

Repeat after me:

They will be called children of God.

They will be called children of God.

Walk with righteous hearts, merciful hands and peaceful minds.

Amen.

(From: Global contextual hymn & song workshop, Oslo 2005)

Song: Ewe thina *(South African traditional)*